



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Parris Wellman, et al.

Application No.: 10/699,337

Group Art Unit: 3734

Filed: 10/31/2003

Examiner: Michael G Mendoza

For: SPACE-CREATING RETRACTOR WITH
VESSEL MANIPULATOR

Conf. No. 5396

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed on October 6, 2006, in the above-identified patent application. A response to the Office Action was due on January 6, 2007. As this paper is not being submitted within the established period of three months, a petition to extend that period an additional three months is also being submitted.

Applicants request entry of the following amendments to the claims. Upon entry, the claims pending for further proceedings will be those in the claim listing that begins at page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on April 6, 2007 with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail No. EV 756154656 US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1451, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


J. Gary Mohr

Dated: April 6, 2007